
COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The House Select Committee on Compensation for Victims of the Eugenics Sterilization Program met six times from October 9, 2008 until December 18, 2008.

October 9, 2008

The first meeting of the Committee took place on Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 1124 of the Legislative Building. Representative Womble, Co-chair of the Committee welcomed Committee members, Committee staff, and members of the public.

Mr. Will Polk, General Counsel to Lieutenant Governor's Office was invited to address the Committee and he offered the Lieutenant Governor's assistance in the development of the recommendations. The Committee heard presentations from Mr. Benjamin Popkin, staff attorney with the Research Division, who discussed the history and operations of the North Carolina State Eugenics Sterilization Program; and Ms. Barbara Pullen-Smith, Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities who discussed the recommendations of the Governor's 2003 Eugenics Study Committee.

October 23, 2008

The second meeting of the Committee took place on Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 1124 of the Legislative Building. Representative Sutton, Co-chair of the Committee, welcomed Committee members, Committee staff, and members of the public.

The Committee heard personal testimonies from three Eugenics Survivors: Ms. Mary English of Fayetteville, North Carolina; Ms. Elaine Riddick of Georgia, and Mr. Willis Lynch of Littleton, North Carolina. Mr. Tony Riddick, son of Ms. Elaine Riddick also gave testimony of growing up as the son of a Eugenics survivor.

November 6, 2008

The third meeting of the Committee took place on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 1124 of the Legislative Building. Representative Womble, Co-chair of the Committee welcomed Committee members, Committee staff, and members of the public.

The Committee heard presentations from Ms. Pullen-Smith, Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, who discussed the recommendations of the Governor's 2003 Eugenics Study Committee, as well as the status of each recommendation; and Ms. Melanie Bush staff member of the Fiscal Research Division, who discussed compensation packages for Eugenics survivors in other countries, as well as possible compensation options for North Carolina to consider.